

the interest that is needed, more time to have a consensus on the reforms that other Members of Congress have ideas on.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1215

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5290, to extend authority for the Department of Agriculture's Livestock Mandatory Reporting program.

Under the Livestock Mandatory Reporting program, or LMR, meatpackers across the country are required to report to the USDA the details of transactions involving the purchase of cattle, swine, and sheep, as well as transactions for the corresponding sales of certain beef, pork, and lamb products.

The USDA compiles and disseminates the information through hundreds of market reports each week, detailing price trends and supply and demand conditions. In turn, livestock industry participants, including farmers, ranchers, and feedlot operators, use the information to make informed marketing decisions.

The livestock markets have experienced significant price volatility leading up to and in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, cattle markets in particular. As I am sure many of you have heard from constituents at home, this uncertainty has led to cries from the countryside for significant market reforms and investigations into packer purchasing behavior.

As industry and Congress continue to grapple with the best approach to improving market transparency while avoiding unintended consequences, and as we await the results of ongoing investigations, it is imperative that farmers and ranchers maintain access to the market information already provided by LMR.

H.R. 5290 would do just that, providing much-needed certainty for the year ahead.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, the Livestock Mandatory Reporting program is really a necessary and significant tool for the agriculture industry, especially based on the disruptions that we experienced most recently in 2020.

I think American citizens are consciously aware of the difficulties and the potential difficulties with the food and agriculture supply chains and the difficulties that they experienced as they went to the grocery stores as they sought to feed their families, specifically during 2020 and in the wake of

COVID-19. The Livestock Mandatory Reporting program is a tool that can help avoid that type of an issue.

This reauthorization, as the chairman said, is important. It gives us time to have a great debate and to look at how we increase transparency within the livestock industry.

I urge my colleagues to support this extension, this reauthorization, to give us time to make the necessary fixes and refinements in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I will just close right briefly with a big thank you to my great staff, which is headed by the distinguished, smart, and dedicated Anne Simmons. I don't know what I would do without her. Of course, Ashley Smith, Prescott Martin, Daniel Feingold, Lesly McNitt, Kelcy Schaunaman, and also my chief of staff, Catherine Kuerbitz. We are a team, and I want to thank our staff.

Also, I want to thank our ranking member. We work together in a bipartisan way. This is an example of how we Democrats and Republicans have got to continue to do. We are here today setting this fine example of strong bipartisanship.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5290.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

CATTLE CONTRACT LIBRARY ACT OF 2021

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5609) to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, to establish a cattle contract library, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5609

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Cattle Contract Library Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. CATTLE CONTRACT LIBRARY.

Chapter 2 of subtitle B of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635d et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 224. CATTLE CONTRACT LIBRARY.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish and maintain a library or catalog of each type of contract offered by packers to producers for the purchase of all or part of the producers' production of fed cattle (including cattle that are purchased or committed for delivery), including any schedules of premiums or discounts associated with the contract.

"(b) INFORMATION COLLECTION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—To maintain the library or catalog established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall obtain information from each packer on each type of contract of the packer by requiring a filing or other form of information submission from each packer.

"(2) CONTRACTED CATTLE INFORMATION.—Information submitted to the Secretary by a packer under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to each contract of a packer—

"(A) the type of contract;

"(B) the duration of the contract;

"(C) all contract summary information;

"(D) provisions in the contract that may affect the price of cattle covered by the contract including—

"(i) base price;

"(ii) schedules of premiums or discounts; and

"(iii) transportation arrangements;

"(E) the total number of cattle covered by the contract solely committed to the packer each week within the 6-month and 12-month periods following the date of the contract, by reporting region;

"(F) in the case of a contract in which a specific number of cattle are not solely committed to the packer—

"(i) an indication that the contract is an open commitment; and

"(ii) any weekly, monthly, annual, or other limitations on the number of cattle that may be delivered to the packer under the contract; and

"(G) a description of the provisions in the contract that provide for expansion in the committed numbers of fed cattle to be delivered under the contract for the 6-month and 12-month periods following the date of the contract.

"(c) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

"(1) LIBRARY CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall make publicly available in a user-friendly format a summary of the information collected for each type of contract under subsection (b), including notice (on a real-time basis, if practicable) of the types of contracts that are being offered by packers to, and are open to acceptance by, producers for the purchase of fed cattle.

"(2) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Beginning not later than 30 days after the date on which the library or catalog is established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make publicly available weekly or monthly reports for producers and other interested persons, which shall include—

"(A) based on the information collected under subsection (b)(2)(E), the total number of fed cattle committed under contracts for delivery to packers within the 6-month and 12-month periods following the date of the report, organized by reporting region and type of contract;

"(B) based on the information collected under subsection (b)(2)(F), the number of contracts with an open commitment along with any weekly, monthly, annual or other limitations on the number of cattle that may be delivered under such contracts; and

“(C) based on the information collected under subsection (b)(2)(G), the total maximum number of fed cattle that may be delivered within the 6-month and 12-month periods following the date of the report, organized by reporting region and type of contract.

“(d) MAINTENANCE OF LIBRARY OR CATALOG.—Information in the library or catalog established under subsection (a) about types of contracts that are no longer offered or in use shall be labeled as inactive in the library or catalog.

“(e) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The publication of information under this section shall be subject to the confidentiality protections provided under section 251 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636).

“(f) VIOLATIONS.—It shall be unlawful and a violation of this Act for any packer to willfully fail or refuse—

“(1) to provide to the Secretary accurate information required under this section; or

“(2) to comply with any other requirement of this section.

“(g) PRODUCER EDUCATION GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service and in coordination with the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, shall make competitive grants to eligible entities for producer outreach and education efforts on best uses of cattle market information, including information made available through the livestock mandatory reporting program and the catalog or library established under subsection (a).

“(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting grant recipients under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that—

“(A) demonstrate an ability to work directly with cattle producers;

“(B) can quickly and accurately publish and disseminate information and analysis of relevant Department of Agriculture data in a manner that benefits producer decision making; and

“(C) collaborate with trade associations or other organizations with a demonstrated ability to provide educational programs on markets and risk management.

“(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means an entity listed in subsection (b)(7) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 3157(b)(7)).

“(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.”.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 221 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635d) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) FORMULA MARKETING ARRANGEMENT.—The term ‘formula marketing arrangement’ means the advance commitment of cattle for slaughter—

“(A) by any means other than through a negotiated purchase, negotiated grid purchase, or a forward contract; and

“(B) using a method for calculating price under which the price is determined at a future date.”;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (6), (7), (8), and (10), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) NEGOTIATED GRID PURCHASE.—The term ‘negotiated grid purchase’ means a purchase of fed cattle by a packer from a producer under which—

“(A) the base price for the cattle is determined by seller-buyer interaction on a day;

“(B) the cattle are scheduled for delivery to the packer not more than 14 days after the date on which the agreement for purchase is made; and

“(C) the base price is subject to adjustment by premiums and discounts after delivery.”; and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

“(9) TYPE OF CONTRACT.—The term ‘type of contract’ means the classification of contracts for the purchase of fed cattle based on the mechanism used to determine the base price for the fed cattle committed to a packer under the contract, including formula purchases, negotiated grid purchases, forward contracts, and other purchase agreements, as determined by the Secretary.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5609.

One of my goals, Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, is to ensure that our farmers and our ranchers are treated fairly. This bill, which creates a cattle contract library, will improve fairness through increasing transparency in the marketplaces.

Mr. Speaker, over the past few years, we have seen significant volatility in our cattle markets, and the Agriculture Committee has held hearings to discuss this volatility and the events that precipitated those price fluctuations.

As we look for ways to bring about parity to cattle markets, this bill is one good step in that right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, Mr. JOHNSON, for his work on this bill. This is a good reminder, another reminder, of the great bipartisan legislation that is possible when we Democrats and Republicans work together to address important issues. I thank the gentleman, Mr. JOHNSON, for putting this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield the management of this bill to Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of

H.R. 5609, the Cattle Contract Library Act of 2021.

As I am sure many of my colleagues have heard from their constituents back home, the differences between prices paid to producers for their live cattle, and those paid by consumers at the meat counter, have led to spirited debate about the transparency of the cattle markets in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A variety of hearings on the matter have amplified those concerns. These hearings and other related oversight have also made very clear the differing opinions on if and how they should be addressed legislatively.

There is a small, but vocal, faction in support of government mandates dictating thresholds of cattle to be purchased on the spot market. Frankly, such a proposal lacks broad industry support and, in my opinion, needs further review to ensure it would actually achieve its intended goals.

In fact, on two occasions now during this Congress, the House Agriculture Committee has heard from diverse groups of respected economists and industry stakeholders about the potential costs and unintended consequences of this sort of government intervention in the marketplace.

Giving these complex and compelling interests, I am thankful for Congressman DUSTY JOHNSON's leadership in pursuit of what I view as a pragmatic middle ground with a broad cross-section of industry support.

If true market transparency is the goal, it seems to make sense that a cattle contract library could serve as part of the solution. The library would serve as a clearinghouse of information regarding the various contract provisions being utilized in a variety of marketing arrangements. Hopefully, access to this information would provide producers and feeders more insight into market transactions and ultimately give them more leverage in negotiating better terms for the sale of their cattle.

It may not be a silver bullet to all that ails the industry, but I certainly think H.R. 5609 marks a commonsense step in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in support of this carefully crafted bill.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let's be honest. It has been a pretty difficult few years to be a cattle producer. People in that business understand the cyclical nature of prices, so that is not so much their beef, if you will.

But in that environment, it is much more difficult to have black swan event after black swan event hit these hardworking men and women. From

the Holcomb fire to COVID-19 disruptions, it has been an incredibly volatile marketplace. They are trying to make a living and they are trying to pay their bills in that kind of environment with less price transparency than they have ever had.

Now, it used to be relatively easy. Of course, I think we all know that price discovery is a critically important part of any fully functional marketplace. It used to be easy. You just went down to the sale barn, you sat in the seats, and you were able to see exactly what Mr. MANN was selling his cattle for and exactly what Mrs. HARTZLER was buying them for.

But as we have seen a migration of sales away from the sale barn and to alternative marketing agreements, that has left our producers less prepared to understand what is going on in the marketplace.

That is why I was so grateful to see a broad cross-section of stakeholders come together in Phoenix a few months ago. They said: Gosh darn it, we are tired of having the livestock industry fight amongst each other. Let's settle on what we can agree on, things that we can actually get done in the 117th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, they came out of that meeting with a clear clarion call for what Congress can do to help. There were three majors items, but the cattle library, along with the bill we just passed, the Livestock Mandatory Reporting program, were the heart of one of the three recommendations.

What this bill does is takes the information, basic nonconfidential information, from those alternative marketing agreements and makes it available, and it makes sure that there is a mechanism for that information to be put into resources that can actually be used by the independent cattle producers and the small feeders that are so critically important to this marketplace.

This has been widely bipartisan, and this is embraced by a fantastic cross-section, from the U.S. cattlemen to NCBA to Farm Bureau to National Farmers Union to the Livestock Marketing Association, good people who have come together and understand that while this does not solve the problem, it is a critically important step in moving us in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1230

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5609, a bill that I am a cosponsor of, the Cattle Contract Library Act.

This legislation includes a vital piece of my Optimizing the Cattle Market

Act that establishes a USDA-maintained library of cattle contracts, including information on the type of contract, length of the contract, pricing information, and delivery information. The increased market transparency that this bill provides is long overdue.

American cattle producers continue to face challenges as a result of market disruptions and the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is essential that cattle producers are equipped with the necessary resources and knowledge to increase their leverage during price negotiations for cattle.

The Cattle Contract Library Act can provide a much-needed tool in helping cattle producers make informed decisions and survive volatility across today's industry.

I fully support this bipartisan legislation, and I thank Congressman DUSTY JOHNSON for his hard work and leadership on this. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the real leadership that Mrs. HARTZLER has shown on these issues for years and thank her for that.

One of the great things about Congress is most of us were just normal people before we got here, leaders in our industry, and the next speaker is certainly that. He is somebody who understands the finance of ag operations and the operation of these farms and ranches. He is one of the strongest freshman voices in Congress.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN).

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for all of his work in getting this legislation put together and bringing it to the floor this morning. It is not a silver bullet, but it potentially can help our cattle markets.

I grew up on a family farm and pre-conditioning feed yard. I spent thousands of hours riding pens and doctoring sick cattle in the Big First District of Kansas, which is the largest beef-producing district in the country. The Big First is home to cow-calf operations, feed yards, and packing plants of all sizes.

In my district and across the country, cattle producers face challenging market dynamics, including historically wide gaps between wholesale beef prices and fed cattle prices, packing capacity and regulation, and more.

I have talked to hundreds of cattle producers in Kansas, ranging from small cow-calf operations to some of the country's largest feed yards. Overwhelmingly, I have heard that we need to increase price discovery in the cash market, make sure that producers benefit when they provide a superior product, refuse to let the government in the free market, and acknowledge regional differences in the industry.

The Cattle Contract Library Act is a simple step toward addressing some of today's concerns with more fairness, transparency, and healthy competition in the cattle market. I am committed to working with the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), my colleagues in the House, and others across Kansas and the country in addressing any concerns with the program and the cattle market before reauthorization of the program at this time next year.

The Cattle Contract Library Act will help ensure that all market participants are both paying and receiving a fair price for their goods. It sends a clear message to ranchers, farmers, and livestock producers across the country that their voices are being heard in Washington. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER), a Member who has firsthand experience with the true operation of America's farms and ranches.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5609, the Cattle Contract Library Act of 2021.

My fellow farmers, farm families, and members of the House Agriculture Committee know the importance of bringing transparency to the cattle market. Currently, cattlemen are unaware of contract terms being offered by producers, which leads to a decline in leverage for smaller producers during price negotiations.

This bill will require packers to report terms of alternative marketing agreements between packers and producers to the USDA, equipping ranchers with additional market data needed to make informed business decisions.

The USDA library will provide producers with key details on cattle contracts, including the type and duration. Market transparency is a critical component of price discovery in cattle marketing.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for putting forth this important legislation.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from South Dakota for yielding me time to speak today.

Iowa's farmers, ranchers, and producers know the value of a hard day's work. For years, they have endured challenges beyond their control. Even though I am a doctor, I know of no work more demanding than birthing calves in the middle of winter and helping them to survive.

Natural disasters such as fires, drought, and derechos have created significant market disruptions.

I was proud to be a cosponsor of Congressman JOHNSON's Cattle Contract Library Act to give cattlemen access

to the most accurate data to make the best decisions possible for their families and their business in the face of these conditions and provide more transparency in the markets.

For months, I have been calling for increased transparency in our cattle markets to help both producers and consumers. I was proud to introduce the bipartisan Meat Packing Special Investigator Act to take on anti-competitive practices and give producers a fair shake and strictly enforce the Packers and Stockyards Act.

I was also proud to help introduce the Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act, which aims to return fairness to the cattle marketplace dominated by four major meatpackers.

It is crucial for Iowa's producers that there is fairness and transparency in our cattle industry. I thank Congressmen JOHNSON and CUELLAR for their incredible work on this issue. I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation, H.R. 5609.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know that I can say it any better than the Members of Congress here who have so much firsthand experience with working ranches and farms. This is a beautiful bipartisan solution.

If you believe in the marketplace, then you understand the importance of price discovery, and you cannot have price discovery if you don't have transparency. This just provides additional leverage and additional tools to the hardworking, independent cow-calf operators and small feeders who have seen their position, their leverage, in the marketplace erode in recent years.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to enthusiastically support this promarket legislation. I look forward to the Senate expeditiously taking up this issue as well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

First of all, I thank the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for his dedication, hard work, and talent in putting forward this bill.

I believe that our ranchers, farmers, and those in the agriculture industry are looking at a great day for agriculture today to get these four important bills over to the Senate, where we will be working together on them.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Mr. JOHNSON, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COURTNEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5609.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

NATIONAL FOREST RESTORATION AND REMEDIATION ACT

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4489) to amend the Act of June 20, 1958, to require that certain amounts collected by the United States with respect to lands under the administration of the Forest Service be invested into interest bearing obligations, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4489

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Forest Restoration and Remediation Act".

SEC. 2. INVESTMENT OF CERTAIN FUNDS INTO INTEREST BEARING OBLIGATIONS.

Section 7 of the Act of June 20, 1958 (16 U.S.C. 579c), is amended—

(1) by striking "of any improvement, protection, or rehabilitation" and inserting "of any assessment, improvement, protection, restoration, or rehabilitation"; and

(2) by striking "Provided, That" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting: "Provided, That any monies covered into the Treasury under this section, including all monies that were previously collected by the United States in a forfeiture, judgment, compromise, or settlement, shall be invested by the Secretary of the Treasury in interest bearing obligations of the United States to the extent the amounts are not, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, required to meet current withdrawals: *Provided further*, That any interest earned on the amounts, including any interest earned by investment, is hereby appropriated and made available until expended to cover the costs to the United States specified in this section: *Provided further*, That, for fiscal year 2021 and thereafter, the Secretary shall include in the budget materials submitted to Congress in support of the President's annual budget request (submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code) for each fiscal year the proposed use of such amounts with respect to the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That any portion of the monies received or earned under this section in excess of the amount expended in performing the work necessitated by the action which led to their receipt may be used to cover the other work specified in this section."

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) and the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 4489.

This bill is an excellent example, again, of the strong bipartisan work that can be accomplished through the Agriculture Committee. First, I want to applaud and thank the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. SCHRIER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for working together to get this legislation to the floor for consideration today by the full House.

Mr. Speaker, we know that there are significant needs for investment in restoration and recovery work on our great national forests. Our bill this morning allows the Forest Service to keep interest on settlement funds and apply these additional resources to restoration work on Forest Service land that has been damaged by mining activities and wildfires. All of us know of the devastation that these wildfires have caused to our forests.

This is one of several major responses that we here in Congress are responding to, to keep our forestry strong and to provide this much-needed financial help to keep interest on settlement funds and apply those additional resources to the restoration work and the Forest Service lands that were damaged by these terrible fires.

It will also allow for more restoration work to be done in some of the areas where it is most needed, particularly the West Coast in California. It will allow this restoration work, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this commonsense, bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), the lead Republican on H.R. 4489.

□ 1245

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank our chairman of the Agriculture Committee, Mr. SCOTT, and I have appreciated working with Ms. SCHRIER from Washington and helping her lead this bill and letting me help do so. I am glad to be able to support this bill here today.